

# Alternative Fuels in Air Transport — from Lab to World Scale Plant

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International Workshop on

**Aviation and Climate** 

Change

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#### **Overview**

- The Energy Challenge and role of Aviation
- Alternative Fuels
  - Fossil Feed Natural Gas
  - Biological Feed Sugar
- Summary & Conclusions

### The Energy Challenge

- Global demand for energy will double by 2050
  - 3 billion energy consumers will be added to the world's population
  - These people would like access to electricity and personal transport
- Energy supply from all sources will struggle to keep up with demand
  - There will be continued dependence on fossil fuels such as oil, gas and coal
  - We will also need rapid growth in renewables & nuclear
- Environmental stresses from producing and using energy are increasing
- Climate change is chief amongst these but also particulates and air quality issues

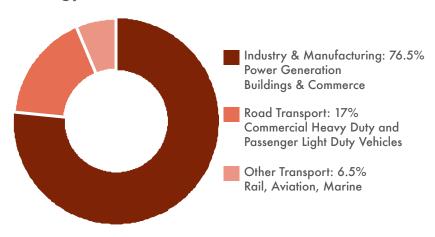




### **Transport Energy Demand**

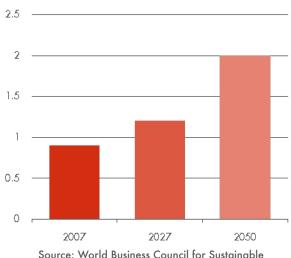
- Oil has been key for transport because it is a liquid and holds high energy density
- Transport accounts for about a quarter of energy-related CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- Demand for mobility is increasing and emissions set to rise
- We need better vehicle technology, fuels and consumer behavior to constrain this growth
- On the road we will need a mix of options (electric vehicles, biofuels, hydrogen)

#### Energy Related CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions\*



Source: International Energy Agency \* 62% of global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

#### Estimate of worldwide vehicle demand

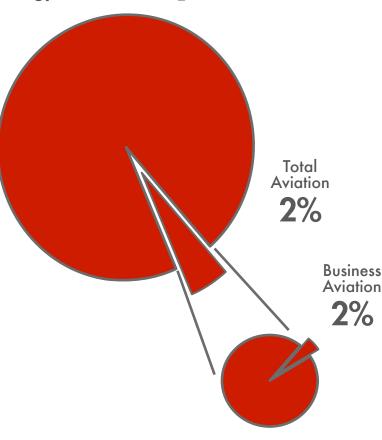


Source: World Business Council for Sustainable Development

# Aviation's contribution to global CO<sub>2</sub>

- Kerosene, from oil, has been key for aviation fuel
- Aviation accounts for about 2% of energy-related CO<sub>2</sub> emissions – Business aviation is ca 0.04% and both are growing
- The IPCC reports that the effect of altitude of emissions may have multiplier effect
- Visibility of tackling CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in aviation is high
- Also serious interest in local air quality issues at airports
- We need better aircraft, more efficient engines and improved air traffic management systems

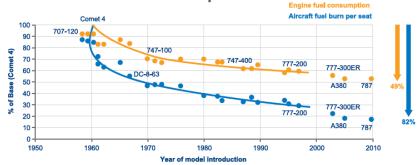
Energy-related CO<sub>2</sub> emissions



Source: IPCC, IBAC & GAMA

# Efficiency gains impressive... but outstripped by growth

#### Commercial Aviation fuel burn per seat



\*This includes not only the goods and services that are directly provided by the industry (airlines, OEMs, suppliers, support facilities, etc.), but also the secondary economic growth made possible by tourism, freight carriage, business facilitation, etc.

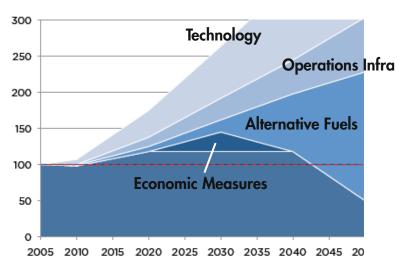
INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION 11

- Economics factors (offsets) may have a small part to play, but not sustainable or productive
- Aircraft Technology improvements are needed to bridge the gap
- Renewable alternative fuels seen as a key solution (or the carrival of the Cavalry)

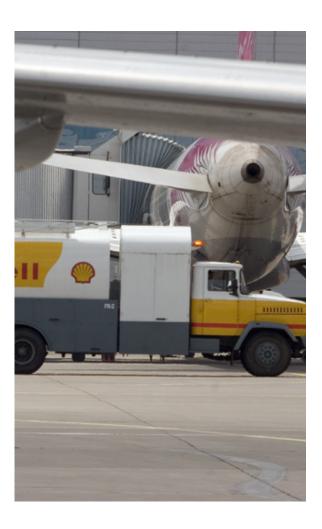
- >80% fuel burn per seat
- >40% fuel consumption

#### COMMERCIAL AVIATION CO2 EMISSIONS

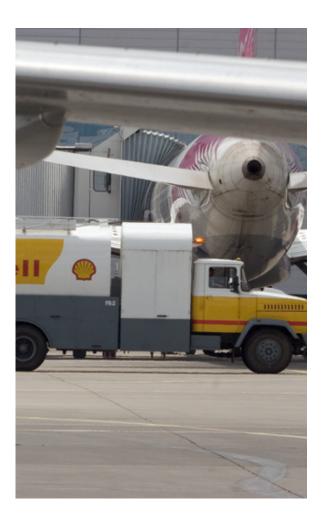
INDEX 100 EQUALS 2005 LEVELS Actual & Forecast, 2005 - 2050



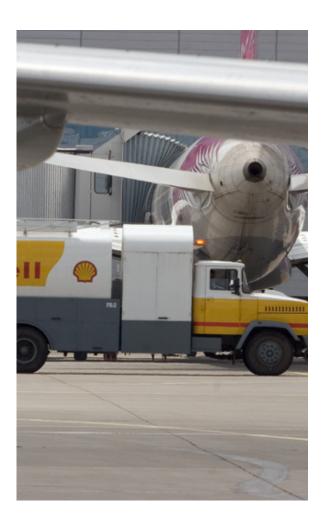
Source: IATA, IBAC & GAMA



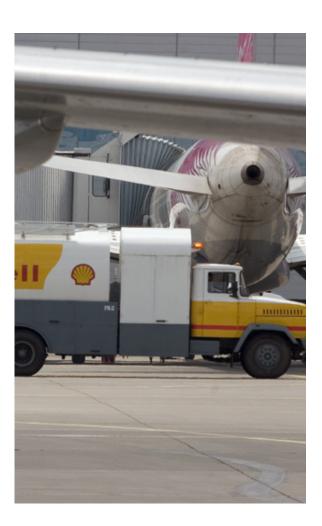
 Long lifetime and high capital cost of aircraft – kerosene is preferred jet fuel for next 30 years



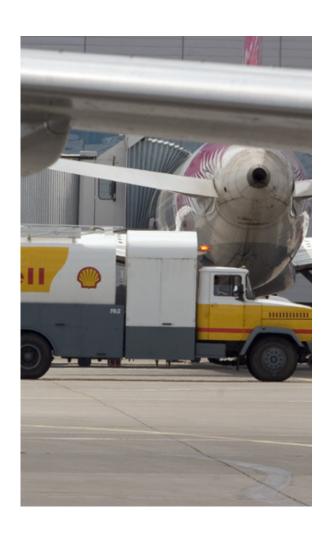
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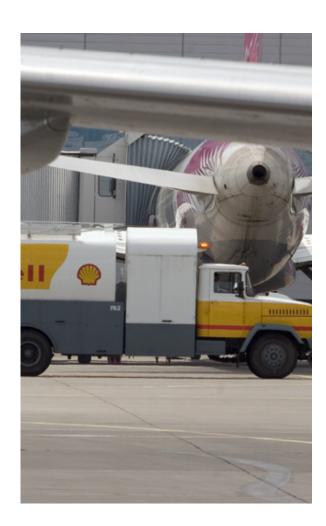
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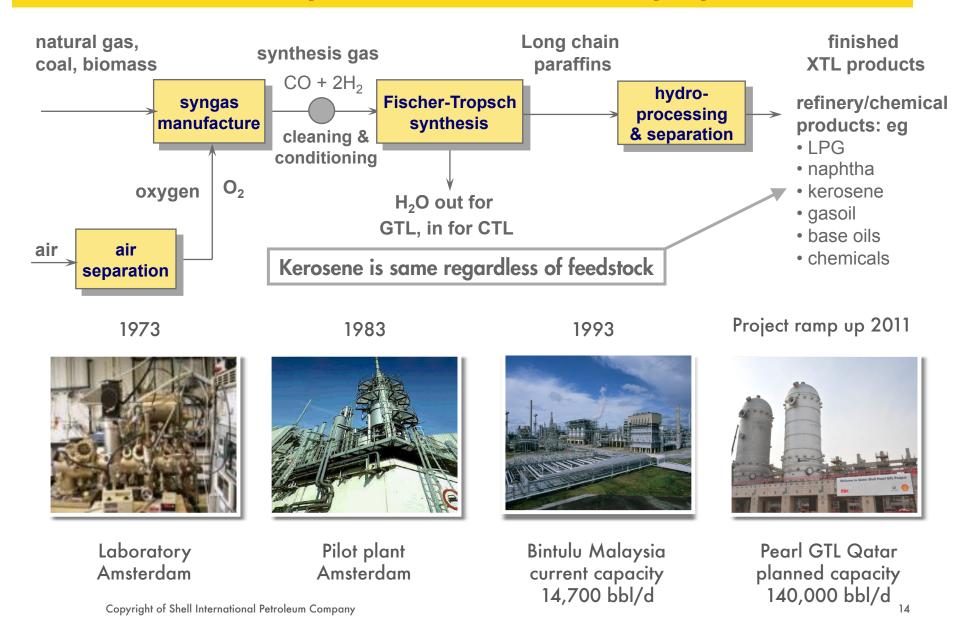


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- Currently impossible to supply any biofuel mandates for aviation fuel in a sustainable manner



#### Fossil Feed - Natural Gas

# The Fischer-Tropsch Process & Shell GTL projects



#### GTL Jet Fuel – a new source of kerosene

- Convenient drop-in replacement
- Diversity of supply not a biofuel!
- GTL kerosene has no aromatics and virtually sulphur-free
- Local emissions benefits (PM, SO<sub>X</sub>) could help to improve local air quality at airports
- Aircraft may have to carry slightly less weight of fuel to cover the same distance
- Currently investigating other possible benefits



GTL's combustion (on the right) is less sooty



# Bio-jet technically feasible...

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#### 1. CAPEX

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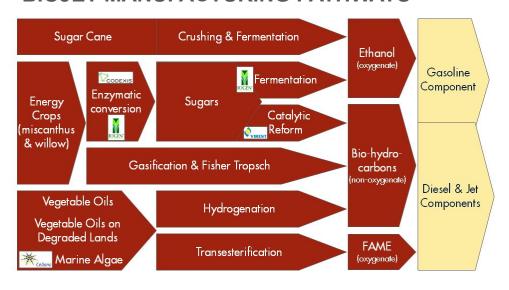
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### Bio-jet technically feasible... Commercial-scale some way away

#### **BIOJET MANUFACTURING PATHWAYS**



#### THREE KEYS TO SCALABILITY

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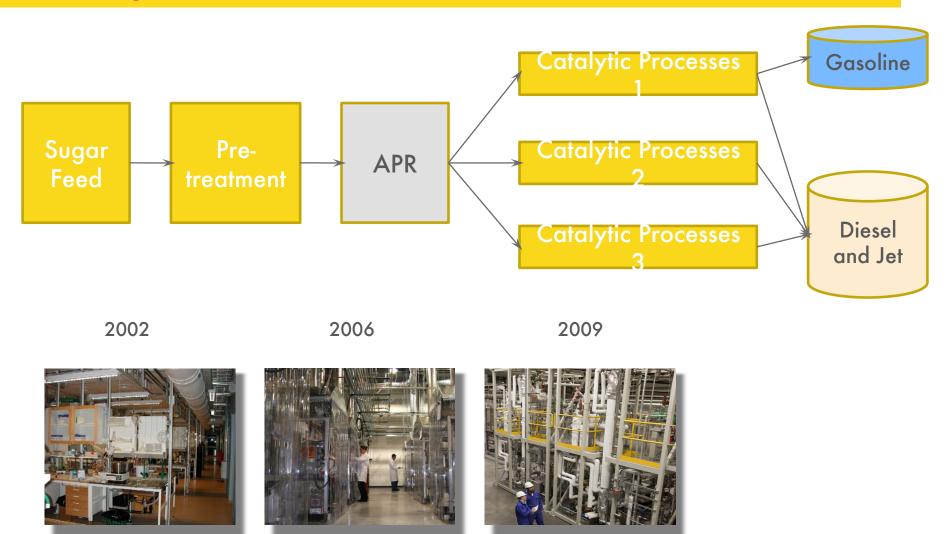
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- Shell has one of the broadest portfolios of R&D projects and ventures to create low carbon fuels with emphasis on scalability, yield and product cost
- Typically processes will produce a range of components suitable for both diesel and kerosene with varying yields in each boiling range
- Specific to Aviation Shell is an active member of CAAFI, ASTM, IATA and EU programmes SWAFEA (EU DG-TREN) and Alfa-Bird (EU DG-Research)

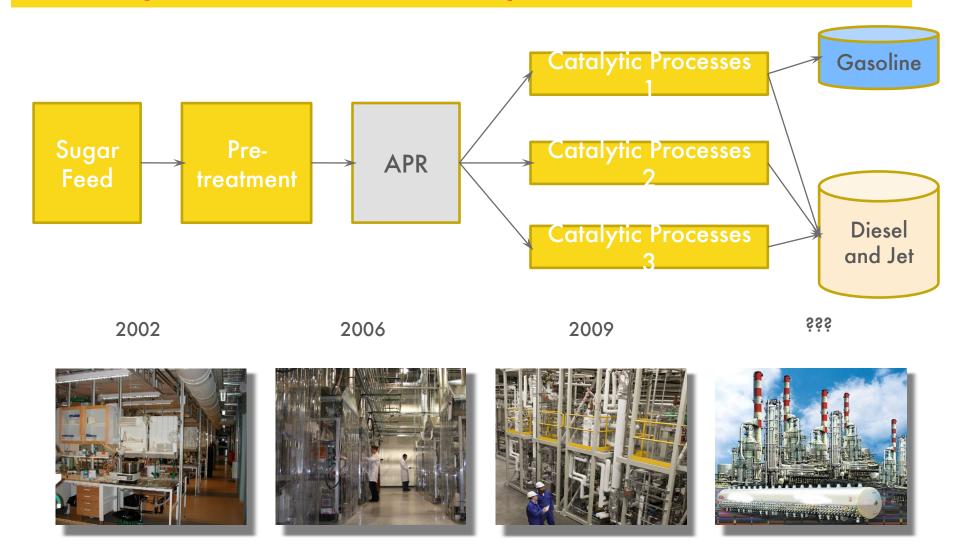
# Biological Feed - Sugar

# Sugar to Alkanes – Shell-Virent Joint Venture Process



Courtesy Virent Energy Systems

# Sugar to Alkanes – Full scale plant???



Courtesy Virent Energy Systems

### **Summary & Conclusions**

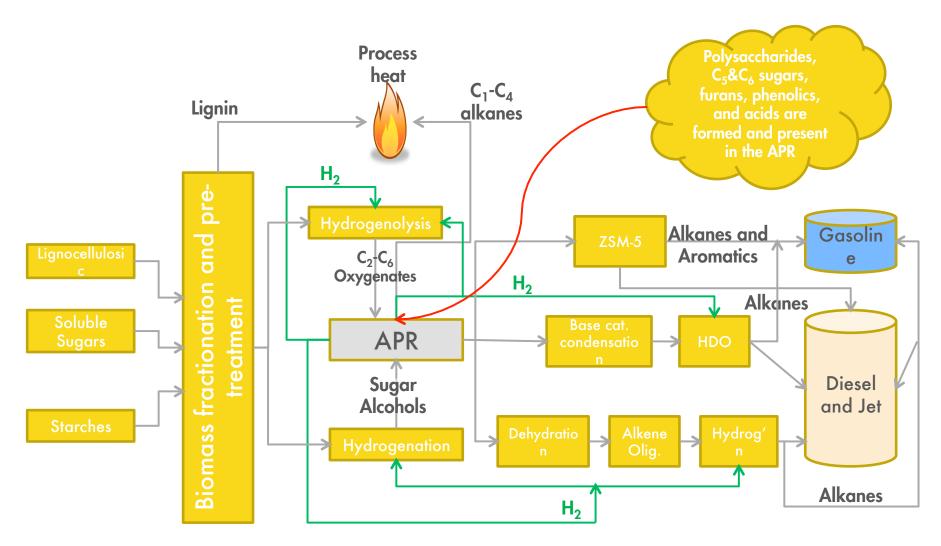
- Environmental pressures on the aviation sector, including business aviation, are here to stay...
- Shell is committed to help meet these environmental challenges through a range of product and service offerings
- Long term we aim to offer improvements in local air quality with Sulphur and Aromatics free GTL jet fuel and R&D into low carbon fuels
- We are working towards scaling-up our biofuels R&D programmes
- We are constantly looking at new components from novel routes and feedstocks
- Shell is looking at the LCA of all of our novel routes and we are making a huge effort to help provide practical solutions for the Aviation fuels industry

#### **Questions & Answers**





### Sugar to Alkanes – Shell-Virent Joint Venture



Courtesy Virent Energy Systems